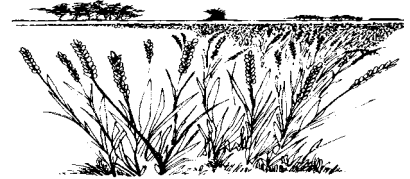


# California Field Crop Review



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## CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES - FEBRUARY 2005

Mid-February prices received by California farmers increased from January for dry edible beans, all potatoes, winter potatoes, and all types of hay. Mid-February prices for upland cotton lint were below the previous month. Fall potatoes remained the same as the previous month. Wheat and cottonseed were not published to avoid possible disclosure of individual operations. There were insufficient data to establish a mid-February price for barley. Prices were above a year earlier for dry edible beans and all types of hay. All potatoes, winter potatoes, fall potatoes, and upland cotton lint were below the February 2004 levels.

### U.S. FEBRUARY FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP 2 POINTS FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 113, based on 1990-92=100, is 2 points (1.8 percent) above the January Index. The Crop Index is up 5 points (5.0 percent) while the Livestock Index is down 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher prices for tomatoes, oranges, broccoli, and celery. Lower prices were received for corn, dairy, hogs, and soybeans. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, cattle, broilers, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 3 points (2.6 percent) from February 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 117, is 2 points (1.7 percent) above last month but unchanged from February 2004.

The February All Crops Index is 106, up 5.0 percent from January but 12 percent below February 2004. Index increases from January for fruits and nuts and commercial vegetables more than offset price decreases for potatoes and dry beans, food grains, cotton, feed grains and hay, oil-bearing crops, and tobacco.

The February Food Grains Index, at 109, is down 3.5 percent from the previous month and 12 percent below February 2004. The February all wheat price, at \$112.67 per ton, is down \$1.33 from the January price and \$13.00 below February 2004. The February rice price, at \$6.83 per cwt., is down 33 cents from the January price and \$1.40 below a year ago.

The February Feed Grains & Hay Index is 93, down 2.1 percent from last month and 18 percent below February 2004. The corn price, at \$72.14 per ton, is down \$3.57 from January and \$21.07 below February 2004. The all hay price, at \$84.70 per ton, is up 50 cents from last month and \$3.50 above February 2004.

The February Cotton Index, at 63, is down 3.1 percent from a month ago and 38 percent below February 2004. The cotton price, at 38.1 cents per pound, is down 1.5 cents from January and 23.8 cents below a year ago.

The February Potatoes & Dry Beans Index, at 101, is 3.8 percent below last month but 1 percent above February 2004. The all potato price, at \$5.44 per cwt., is down 15 cents from the previous month and 43 cents below last February. The dry edible bean price, at \$28.30 per cwt., is 90 cents above last month and \$10.80 above a year ago.

## FARM PRICES: AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

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Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2004	January 2005	February 2005	February 2004	January 2005	Feb. 15, 2005
		Dollars					
Corn 2/	Ton	---	---	---	93.21	75.71	72.14
Wheat 2/	Ton	122.00	3/	3/	125.67	114.00	112.67
Oats 2/	Ton	---	---	---	98.75	102.50	98.75
Barley 2/	Ton	4/	3/	4/	113.75	100.83	103.33
Sorghum Grain 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	4.76	2.95	2.98
Rice 2/	Cwt.	---	---	---	8.23	7.16	6.83
Dry Edible Beans 2/	Cwt.	32.50	40.70	42.20	17.50	27.40	28.30
All Potatoes 5/	Cwt.	17.30	14.10	14.30	5.87	5.59	5.44
Winter	Cwt.	20.20	18.50	18.80	---	---	---
Spring	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Summer	Cwt.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	8.90	7.55	7.55	---	---	---
All Hay, Baled	Ton	96.00	116.00	124.00	81.20	84.20	84.70
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Ton	97.00	121.00	130.00	85.10	90.90	91.90
Other Hay, Baled	Ton	85.00	88.00	92.00	72.10	70.60	70.00
Upland Cotton Lint 2/	Lb.	0.729	0.531	0.522	0.619	0.396	0.381
Cottonseed	Ton	3/	145.00	3/	140.00	112.00	112.00

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole. 2/ Previous month revised to monthly average. 3/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure. 4/ Insufficient data to establish a price. 5/ Monthly average.

## INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	1910-14 = 100			1990-92 = 100		
	Feb. 2004	Jan. 2005	Feb. 2005	Feb. 2004	Jan. 2005	Feb. 2005
Prices Received - Unadjusted						
All Farm Products	736	705 1/	720	116	111 1/	113
All Crops	595	500 1/	521	121	101 1/	106
Food Grains	395	358 1/	348	124	113	109
Feed Grains and Hay	404	338 1/	332	113	95 1/	93
Cotton	523	335 1/	322	102	65	63
Potatoes and Dry Edible Beans	508	532 1/	511	100	105 1/	101
Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities, Services, Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates 2/	1,740	1,778 1/	1,786	131	134	134
Parity Ratio 3/	42	40 1/	40	89	83 1/	84

1/ Revised. 2/ All production indexes as of 15th of month. 3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates.

**FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS  
FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND MARCH 1 STOCKS BY STATE 1/**

State	Crop of 2003			Crop of 2004		
	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2004	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Mar. 1, 2005	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.			1,000 Cwt.		
California	3,528	1,300	37	3,876	1,300	34
Colorado	23,652	10,700	45	23,148	11,100	48
Idaho	123,180	58,000	47	131,970	64,000	48
Maine	17,030	8,900	52	19,220	9,400	49
Michigan	15,015	5,100	34	13,650	3,900	29
Minnesota	22,330	9,600	43	18,920	8,800	47
Montana	3,339	2,800	84	3,551	3,200	90
Nebraska	9,744	2/	2/	9,288	2/	2/
New York	6,510	700	11	5,184	700	14
North Dakota	27,440	13,000	47	26,765	13,100	49
Ohio	1,097	2/	2/	1,080	2/	2/
Oregon	20,991	11,000	52	19,775	9,000	46
Pennsylvania	3,375	700	21	2,640	700	27
Washington	93,150	29,500	32	93,810	29,000	31
Wisconsin	32,800	11,200	34	30,450	11,000	36
Other States	---	3,780	---	---	3,220	---
<b>15-STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>403,181</b>	<b>166,280</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>403,327</b>	<b>168,420</b>	<b>42</b>

1/ Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2005 crop. Seed usage in 2004 totaled 26.4 million cwt. 2/ Combined into "Other States."

**CALIFORNIA FIELD CROPS YIELD AND PRODUCTION HISTORY**

Crop	Unit	Yield				Production			
		2003	2004	Record High	Record Year	2003	2004	Record High	Record Year
Barley	Tons	1.54	1.30	1.68	1995	89,100	97,200	1,996,896	1957
Beans, Dry	Cwt.	18.40	20.40	22.70	1997	1,380,000	1,163,000	4,109,000	1955
Corn for Grain	Tons	4.48	4.90	4.90	2004	627,200	735,000	1,428,000	1984
Cotton, Upland Lint	1/	1,317.00	1,525.00	1,525.00	2004	1,495,000	1,770,000	3,535,000	1981
Cottonseed	Tons	--	--	--	--	680,000	871,000	1,445,000	1981
Hay, All	Tons	5.85	5.81	5.85	2003	9,485,000	9,000,000	9,594,000	2002
Hay, Alfalfa	Tons	7.00	7.00	7.20	1997 & 2001	7,630,000	7,350,000	8,094,000	2002
Hay, Other	Tons	3.50	3.30	3.50	1995 & 2003	1,855,000	1,650,000	1,855,000	1995 & 2003
Oats	Tons	1.28	1.36	1.36	1995, 1999, 2004	44,800	34,000	121,312	1957
Potatoes, All	Cwt.	402.00	401.00	402.00	2003	17,295,000	18,099,000	35,166,000	1966
Rice	Cwt.	77.00	86.00	86.00	2004	39,036,000	50,759,000	50,759,000	2004
Sugar Beets	Cwt.	39.10	39.30	39.50	2002	1,959,000	1,926,000	9,031,000	1972
Potatoes, Sweet	Tons	300.00	295.00	300.00	2003	3,210,000	3,393,000	3,393,000	2004
Wheat, All	Tons	2.08	2.59	2.59	2004	1,095,300	1,086,000	3,166,350	1981

1/ Yield in pounds, production in bales.

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about today's farm financial situation.

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*now* for better financial tomorrows...

